

## Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 SAM-01 SAB-01 /079 W

----- 031491

R 250609Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 911

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MU, US

SUBJECT: CONTINUED INTEREST IN MASIRAH ARRANGEMENTS

REF: MUSCAT 132

1. LOCAL WEEKLY PRESS GIVES PROMINENT COVERAGE TO STATEMENTS MADE IN CAIRO BY UNDERSECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, YUSUF AL-ALAWI, CONCERNING USG REQUEST RE MASIRAH ISLAND. AL-WATTAN OF FEB. 20 PRINTED FULL TEXT OF AL-ALAWI'S INTERVIEW WITH CAIRO NEWSPAPER AL-AKHBAR IN WHICH HE STATED, INTER ALIA, THAT NO AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON THE USG REQUEST. AL-ALAWI STATED THAT UK-OMAN AGREEMENT WILL EXPIRE IN 2-3 YEARS, THAT OMAN WILL NOT "RENT" ISLAND TO ANY POWER--GREAT OR SMALL--AND THAT US HAD AGREED TO "CONDITIONS"

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THAT MASIRAH WOULD NOT BE USED AS BASE OF OPERATIONS

AGAINST ANY FRIENDLY ARAB OR NON-ARAB STATE.

2. COMMENT: AL-ALAWI APPARENTLY HAS ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY AS SPOKESMAN ON THIS ISSUE (REFTEL). ON FEB. 23 HE LEFT ON A TOUR OF GULF CAPITALS (LESS KUWAIT) AND SAUDI ARABIA, REPORTEDLY CARRYING A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM SULTAN QABOOS. WHILE WE SUSPECT HIS MISSION MAY BE RELATED TO PRESENT FINANCIAL PROBLEMS (SEPTELS), HE UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE PREPARED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS WHICH MAY BE PUT CONCERNING MASIRAH. SO FAR, OMANGOV CONTINUING TO PLAY DOWN US REQUEST AS BEING HARMLESS TO OMANI AND ARAB INTERESTS. HOWEVER, POINTED REFERENCE TO FACT THAT AGREEMENT NOT YET CONCLUDED LEAVES OPEN POSSIBILITY THAT OMANIS CAN BACK OUT IF PRESSURE FROM OTHER ARAB STATES BECOMES TOO GREAT.  
WOLLE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY BASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D750065-0993  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 01 JUL 2003  
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**Subject:** CONTINUED INTEREST IN MASIRAH ARRANGEMENTS  
**TAGS:** MARR, MU, US, XF, (AL-ALAWI, YUSUF)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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